

before the effective date of this bill?

SENATOR CHRONISTER: Because after the effective date of this bill he can use this for diagnostic purposes authorized under subsection (2).

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But everybody can, can't they, or does it apply only to those licensed after the bill?

SENATOR CHRONISTER: Only those that are licensed and go through a prescribed course at the Omni Center and are checked by the board. They have to get permission from the board before they are able to use these.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So any optometrist currently licensed could not, when this bill passes, do what this bill authorizes.

SENATOR CHRONISTER: Unless he has had the training, the extra training, or if he has had the training, he should be able to, but he has to get permission from the board.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. Members of the Legislature, these bills that everybody agrees on, and when the testimony comes it sounds like the Mormon Tabernacle Choir singing in harmony, always make me ask a question or two. I don't think the words "or refer for consultation or treatment" has anything to do with the practice of optometry as such.

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: If you are restricting, by the terms of the bill, what one called an optometrist can do, it is clear that if he or she cannot do it, but wants to meet the needs of the patient, a referral will be made. But, by the same token, this language would cause some people to be in the practice of optometry who are not optometrists. And you have to go by what the law says. And the law says that one who makes a referral for consultation or treatment is practicing optometry. So I'm going to make a motion to strike those words, and then I'll have those who are out in the Rotunda, or wherever they are, tell me why they should not be stricken.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Hartnett is next, but may I introduce a guest of mine, under the south balcony. We have